

Preliminary Amendment

In re Application of: Espe

Page 2

In the Specification

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 3, as follows:

Press pads according to the species have at least two different types of threads, having differing elasticities transverse to the thread axis, in at least one thread system in the fabric. In the framework of this publication, both the compressibility transverse to the thread axis and the flexural strength of a thread are included by this concept. Each of these two properties shapes the elasticity of a press pad, which is correspondingly used simultaneously as a term for its compressibility and flexural strength. Such press pads are known, for example, from the brochure "Press Pads for Short Cycle Presses" of Rheinische Filztuchfabrik GmbH, Stolberg/Germany under the trade name SINAS® UNIVERSAL, incorporated herein by reference. The fabric of these press pads has a warp made of an aramid multifilament twisted with copper threads, while the weft is made alternately of bunched copper threads and an elastomer-sheathed textile multifilament. The combination of different threads in one thread system - in the weft in this case - allows the combination of properties of the different threads and the tailoring of these properties for specific applications by varying the proportion of one or the other type of thread in an especially simple way. These press pads according to the species are distinguished by outstanding padding effect and a high thermal resistance in combination with very good heat transfer, which may even be increased further by elevating the proportion of copper threads, and are used especially for producing laminated flooring plates in modern short cycle multi-daylight presses.

Page 5, after line 18, insert the following heading and paragraph:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The drawings illustrate the best mode currently contemplated of practicing the present invention.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a schematic showing one preferred embodiment of the present invention.

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Page 3

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 20, as follows:

To explain the present invention, an exemplary embodiment is illustrated in a drawing (Figure 1). The figure Figure 1 shows a detail of a section transverse to the weft direction through the fabric of a press pad occurring to the present invention, the warp threads not being shown.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 1, as follows:

The first thread 2 has a first core 4, which is bunched from ~~eight (8)~~ seven or eight symbolically indicated copper wires, each having a diameter of 0.2 mm. The first core 4 is enclosed by a first sheath 5, having a diameter of 1.5 mm, made of a blend elastomer of 15% fluorosilicone and 85% pure silicone rubber. The second thread 3 has a 1 mm thick second core 6 made of Kevlar filament yarn having 0.168 g/m = 1680 dtex and a 1.5 mm thick second sheath 7 made of a different blend elastomer having 10% fluorosilicone and 90% pure silicone rubber. The first sheath 5 has a Shore hardness of 70 - 75 and an overall density of 2.15 g/cm³, and is therefore harder than the second sheath 7, having a Shore hardness of 70 - 75 and an overall density of 1.38 g/cm³. As mentioned above, a similar structure may be present for the warp.

Page 6, after line 18, insert the following paragraph:

Various alternatives are contemplated as being within the scope of the following claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter regarded as the invention.